

Policy

In Fiscal Year 1997 the Office of Policy, Research, & Technology (OPRT) continued to analyze the agency's application and grant patterns in order to assist the Endowment's ongoing evaluation of its new structure and grantmaking policies and practices. These analyses help the Chairman and the National Council on the Arts make any policy or procedural changes necessary to assure a fair but rigorous application review process.

OPRT oversees the Civil Rights Office, which, in 1997, for the second year, managed a pilot internship program as a means of meeting the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), Executive Order 12876. The order is intended to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to provide excellence in education to all students, regardless of race. The Arts Endowment's HBCU initiative places qualified fine arts and arts management students enrolled in HBCUs as interns within nonprofit arts organizations. During its first two years, the program worked with 44 out of the 103 HBCUs in the country.

Research

OPRT's Research Division conducts research and develops and disseminates information on issues that affect the various arts fields and individual artists. The Research Division has reported on national statistics on public arts participation; financial information and other data about arts organizations; and artist employment and earnings. This year the Research Di-

vision:

- conducted the 1997 *Survey of Public Participation in the Arts*, which addresses a variety of arts participation issues such as geographic differences, frequency of arts participation, and barriers to further participation; a summary report will be published in 1998.
- sponsored further development of a national database on arts organizations.
- initiated an analysis to describe and document the extent of multiple jobholding in the arts compared to other professions.

Many of these studies will be continued into Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, giving the Division a 15-year history of comparative data on the arts in America.

Technology

The Endowment promotes a strong cultural presence on the Internet, which is rapidly becoming the international communications mainstream. In this area, OPRT carried out its second year of *Open Studio: The Arts Online*, a national collaboration with the Benton Foundation to help individual artists and nonprofit arts organizations gain training for going online, and to increase the amount of arts and cultural Internet content. In addition, OPRT and the Arts Endowment's Office of Communications together manage the agency's Web site at <http://arts.endow.gov>.

Policy, Research, & Technology

2 awards \$600,000¹

The projects in this section serve multiple artistic disciplines.

The Benton Foundation

Washington, DC \$500,000

A cooperative agreement to support the second year of *Open Studio: The Arts Online*, a partnership to provide at least one

free Internet access site to arts organizations in all 50 states. The project is helping to establish 10 mentoring sites where approximately 200 artists and arts organizations are being trained to develop and maintain their own Web sites.

Norfolk State University

Norfolk, Virginia \$100,000

A cooperative agreement to support the second year of a pilot arts internship program for stu-

dents at historically black colleges and universities. The program helps meet the goals of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

¹An additional \$290,030 was obligated for various research projects, primarily on public participation in the arts. This amount came from Policy, Research, & Technology administrative funds.



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Bryan Warren, Director of Programs for Space One Eleven, Birmingham, Alabama, introduces a young computer user to the Internet as part of *Open Studio: the Arts Online*. Photo © The Birmingham News, 1998 (www.al.com). All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.